

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /093 W

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R 011026Z FEB 74

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5190

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT EG

1. THE RETURN OF ALI AND MUSTAPHA AMIN HAS BEEN GREETED WITH A PAEAN OF PRAISE IN EGYPTIAN PRESS, PARTICULARLY IN AKHBAR, WHICH THEY FOUNDED. ARTICLES AND LETTERS LAUD "GENEROSITY" AND "DEMOCRATIC SPIRIT" OF PRESIDENT SADAT AS WELL AS JOURNALISTIC LEADERSHIP AND EXPERTISE OF THE AMINS. TYPICAL IS ARTICLE IN FEB 1 AL MUSAWWAR, A WEEKLY WHICH OFTEN REFLECTS VIEWS OF SENIOR GOE OFFICIALS, PRAISING JUSTICE OF THE PRESIDENT WHO HAS RELEASED A "GENIUS" OF JOURNALISM "ESTEEMED BY ALL THE WORLD". ON JAN 27 AKHBAR CARRIED SEPARATE MESSAGES FROM THE AMINS LAUDING SADAT FOR "RESTORING FREEDOM", AND FOR "RETURNING INDEPENDENCE TO THE JUDICIARY, HONOR TO THE SOLDIER, AND DIGNITY TO THE ARAB PEOPLE".

2. PERHAPS SYMBOLIC OF THE BROTHERS' REINSTATEMENT WAS THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB GRANTING THEM BOTH HONORARY MEMBERSHIP "IN APPRECIATION AND RECOGNITION OF THEIR SERVICES".

3. COMMENT: THE AMINS FOUNDED THE MODERN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM IN EGYPT AND ARE DEEPLY RESPECTED FOR INNOVATIVE
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STYLE, COURAGE AND ACUMEN. MANY INTELLECTUALS SEE THEIR

RETURN AS A HOPEFUL INDICATION THAT SADAT INTENDS TO LOOSEN SOMEWHAT THE NOOSE ON PRESS FREEDOM. A PEOPLES ASSEMBLY MEMBER, KAMAL GUGARI, IS QUOTED BY AKHBAR JAN 31 AS HOPING RELEASE MAY FOLLOW OF SOME OF THE DETAINED COMPANY DIRECTORS AND UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS.

4. LOCAL SCUTTLEBUTT HAS BOTH AMINS RETURNING TO AKHBAR. ONE AHRAH STAFFER TOLD USINTOFF THAT AKHBAR'S EDITOR-IN-CHIEF QADDUS IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO ROSE AL YUSSUF, THE SATIRICAL MAGAZINE FOUNDED BY HIS MOTHER.
EILTS

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